SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2 OF EACH YEAR AS THE "INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE" IN HAWAII IN HONOR OF MAHATMA GANDHI ON HIS BIRTH DATE.

WHEREAS, violence can occur within the family, the workplace, governments, and society and include crimes of hate and passion, racial massacres, and crimes against poor and weak minorities and cultures; and

WHEREAS, many cultures and societies around the world are too quick to resort to violent action to resolve differences or obtain a desired result, which causes too many lives to be hurt or lost; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma Gandhi believed that the way to resolve conflict is with non-violence; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma Gandhi urged humankind to make the herculean effort to raise themselves to the next level of human development by embracing and practicing non-violence; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy and strategy for social change reject the use of violence, but at the same time deem non-violent action to be an alternative to passive acceptance of oppression; and

WHEREAS, non-violence should be a way of life, and public awareness of non-violence should be taught and demonstrated at every age level and socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, observation of an international day of non-violence in Hawaii on the birth date of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2 acknowledges the great works of one of mankind's greatest peace advocates; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the House of Representatives concurring, that October 2 of each year be observed in Hawaii as the "International Day of Non-Violence" in honor of Mahatma Gandhi on his birth date; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Day of Non-Violence be used to raise awareness of non-violence and reduce psychological and physical violence in all forms and at all levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition-Hawaii, Domestic Violence Action Center, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Inclusive Orthodox Church, LOTUS, Central Union Church in Honolulu, Iolani Peace Institute of Honolulu, and Center for Global Nonkilling.